

# LEWIS COUNTY

IN THE

## SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR

BY  
ROY BIRD COOK

*Author*

“The Family and Early Life of Stonewall Jackson,”  
“Lewis County in the Civil War,” etc.



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## Author's Note

In 1898 a small boy bearing the highly honored title of "printer's devil" held forth in the office of the *Weston Independent*. While engaged in the arduous duties of that occupation, came the War with Spain, which to youth brought excitement in the departure of soldiers and like subjects that caused a speeding up of the busy press in the larger cities and a like reaction in the offices of the smaller newspapers of that day. Scissors could work as well for a child as a great editor, and clippings from the columns of the *Independent* were added to a wondrous collection, such as only a boy can make, to the dismay of a good mother and the secret amusement of his father.

Another war came and went, much greater perhaps, but which met with no greater response on the part of the citizenry. Still later the "graduate" of the newspaper office brought together a collection of material relative to the American Civil War. When it appeared, a veteran of the War with Spain wrote to inquire if "people have forgotten us, the only all-volunteer army ever assembled under the American flag, just as brave and patriotic as any who ever marched before or after us."

"Forgotten!" Gentle reader, can the record of an American soldier ever be forgotten in the hearts of our people? After a rest of twenty-seven years, the little store of clippings was brought again to light; a journal loaned by O. K. Tillman; a company roster resurrected; to which is added some other information collected from sources believed to be correct—and this little tribute to the "boys of '98" is the result.

ROY B. COOK.

Charleston, W. Va.,

April 1, 1925.



Capt. Jackson Arnold

## The Spanish-American War

The year of 1898, which brought forth the Spanish-American War, suddenly found the United States—with a record of thirty years of peace—embroiled with a smaller nation, and about as badly prepared for war as she had ever been in her entire history. The relations of Spain with the territory of Cuba had been the object of national and international interest for years before, and diplomatic relations with Spain had been strained at intermittent periods dating back prior to the Ten Years War of 1868-1878.

The Cubans in 1895 under General Antonio Maceo began an aggressive campaign against the growing Spanish oppression. General Valeriano (Butcher) Weyler with his concentration methods in 1896 simply augmented the hatred of the Cubans and aroused the sympathy of the whole world in behalf of the Cuban patriots. By 1897, feeling in the United States had reached such a point that leaders in all national parties honestly believed that Spanish rule in Cuba should cease. Spain, in the meantime, continued to help herself ride the road to destruction, by committing outrages that filled Americans with indignation.

In January, 1898, General Fitzhugh Lee, the American Consul at Havana, reported to Washington that the situation was becoming quite serious, and a committee of investigation that resulted therefrom reported conditions even worse than alleged. On the 25th of the same month, the U. S. S. Maine, with the consent of Spanish officials, entered Havana harbor, on what was regarded as nothing but a friendly mission.

The great powers of Europe did their utmost to avert the threatened war. Senator Stephen B. Elkins, of West Virginia, who was a fluent Spanish linguist, exerted every effort through the Spanish Minister, Depuy DeLome, to bring Spain to the conclusion that it would be best to relinquish control of Cuba. The efforts seemed crowned with success until February 9, at which time appeared the noted DeLome letter in which the Spanish Minister called President McKinley a cheap politician. Of course, nothing could be done then but to demand that Spain recall her Minister.

On February 15, the citizens of the United States read with horror that the battleship *Maine*, commanded by Captain Charles D. Sigsbee, had been blown to atoms in the Havana Harbor, with two hundred and fifty-one of the crew killed and ninety-nine injured.

In the public mind, at least, there existed no doubt but that the destruction of the *Maine* was all prearranged. Cooler headed officials feared that some retaliation would take place when the Spanish warship *Viscaya* entered New York Harbor on February 18. The American press openly declared for the upholding of the national honor and the freedom of Cuba. A court of inquiry, appointed on March 28, reported to Congress that the *Maine* was destroyed by an external mine. On April 23 war was declared simultaneously with a call from President McKinley for 125,000 volunteers. More than 750,000 responded.

Hostilities were opened on April 27, when Admiral Sampson, with the *New York* and other vessels, silenced the forts at Matanzas, Cuba. On the same afternoon Admiral George Dewey sailed from Mira Bay for Manila, where on May 1st he destroyed the entire Spanish fleet without losing a man, and "captured an empire." On May 11 a squadron engaged the batteries at Cardenas, and on the 31st the fortifications at Santiago were bombarded.

Operations in June opened with Hobson's celebrated exploit with the *Merrimac* in Santiago Harbor. On the 3rd 600 Marines participated in a skirmish at Caimanera. On the 16th General Shafter, with 16,000 men, sailed from Tampa for Cuba with orders to capture Santiago, and the fleet assembled in the harbor. Landing on the 22nd, engagements were fought at Las Guasimas and El Caney, and the city invested on July 1.

On July '3 Admiral Cervera's squadron made a dash from Santiago Harbor, and every vessel was sunk by the American fleet. On the 17th, General Toral, in command of the Spanish troops in this region, surrendered. On August 9 the French Ambassador informed President McKinley that Spain had accepted his terms of peace, and on the 13th the city of Manila surrendered.

Without taking into consideration any connection of the Philippine Insurrection, which officially closed in 1902, the war lasted 114 days. In that time the naval and military forces of the United

States had received the surrender of 35,000 Spanish soldiers, destroyed two Spanish fleets, and secured control of all the Spanish possessions in the West Indies, the Philippines, and Guam. The American loss in the Army was 279 killed and 1,465 wounded; in the Navy, 16 killed and 168 wounded; while the cost to Spain was 2,199 killed and 2,948 wounded. The cost to the United States was \$141,000,000.

## Soldiers From West Virginia

Immediately after the formal declaration of war against Spain, President McKinley requested that Governor George W. Atkinson cause to be formed for service from West Virginia a regiment of infantry to be composed, if possible, of former members of the National Guard. In compliance with this request, on May 2, the West Virginia Brigade, composed at the time of two regiments, was ordered to mobilize at Charleston. Within a few days "Camp Lee" was established on the site of present Kanawha City, with eighteen companies in camp in command of Brigadier-General Baldwin Day Spilman, of Parkersburg. Out of these companies some six were returned to the local stations; and with all members of the balance of the companies who cared to volunteer, the First Regiment, West Virginia Infantry, was organized. The regimental organization was as follows: B. D. Spilman, Colonel; Clarence L. Smith, Lieutenant Colonel; W. H. Banks, Major; W. H. Lyons, Major; Philip A. Schafer, Major; H. Byron Baguley, Surgeon; Cassius C. Hogg, Assistant Surgeon; Charles T. Nesbill, Assistant Surgeon; Rev. S. K. Arbuthnot, Chaplain.

On June 17, the First Regiment was mustered in the United States service, and left Camp Lee, arriving at Chickamauga Battlefield Park the evening of the following day, entering Camp George A. Thomas on the 18th. Some months later the regiment moved to Camp Poland, at Knoxville, from which place it proceeded to Camp Conrad, at Columbus, Georgia, where it was mustered out on February 7, 1899.

On May 25, the President called on West Virginia for a second regiment of infantry. Such companies as were still in existence, or being organized for service, were mobilized at Charleston, establishing "Camp Atkinson," just above the Kelly Axe Factory in present West Charleston. Here the Second Regiment, West Virginia Infantry, was organized, with the following regimental organization: D. T. E. Casteel, Colonel; O'Brien Moore, Lieutenant Colonel; Howard Atkinson, Major; Charles D. Elliot, Major; William F. Henshaw, Surgeon; Zadoc T. Kalbaugh, Assistant Surgeon; William F. Bailey, Assistant Surgeon; Rev. Albert S. Kelly,

Chaplain. The companies were mustered into service by Captain J. M. Burns, of the Seventeenth United States Infantry. On July 30, the regiment left "Camp Atkinson" and moved to Middletown, Pennsylvania, where it entered "Camp Meade." Here some months were spent, after which it removed to "Camp Wetherill," at Greenville, South Carolina, where it was mustered out of service April 9, 1899. It was with this regiment that most of the Lewis County men were connected.

The patriotism of the citizens of West Virginia is shown not only by the numbers of volunteers sent into the service, but by the fact that over 2,000 more applied than could be accepted. Also, many citizens of the State saw service in troops from other States, and some were enrolled in the Regular Army. Yet it may be truthfully set down here that the fact that no great campaigns were conducted, and that many saw no actual warfare does not alter the greater fact that these men offered all they had in time of need. They would have fought to uphold the National honor just as their honored forbears had, and their sons did in the war with Germany, and "carried on" the reputation made and sustained by many a "mountain warrior."

It was a small war, perhaps, but a great one in results, fought by the only absolutely all-volunteer army ever brought together in America. And in all this, Lewis County took up and sustained more than her real share.

## The Organization and Service of Company "F," Second West Virginia Volunteer Infantry

It is not difficult for us who have lived through the events of the late War with Germany to form a slight conception of the public feeling following the destruction of the *Maine*. In Lewis County, and especially in Weston, the feeling was intense, and the popular clamor for war was to be heard on every side.

There was no public demonstration, such as marked the Civil War, but there was the same common topic, and participated in, with a common mind, by men who had seen service on both sides. The "every evening club," organized in the old Bailey House, and continuing to this day, for once forgot the political situation and the checker board. Major C. E. Anderson, a star leader in the Sixth Virginia Cavalry, and Uriah Rexroad, of the Fifteenth Infantry, were strong in their arguments that with Charles O'Hara, who had worn the Confederate gray, they could whip Spain, and do it well. Across the street in the more elaborate "new" R. P. Camden Hotel, similar throngs held forth with similar leaders. And the man on the street joined in, all criticizing the delay in Washington.

The feeling even infected the children. In West Second Street, the son of a former lieutenant in the Eighth Ohio Cavalry produced his father's sword, and with this emblem of authority drilled a company embracing future dentists, doctors, lawyers, and pharmacists, some of whom did not get into action until 1917. Around in Court Street, the school grounds resounded with yells of "Up with the Stars and Stripes, down with Spain." Inside of Weston High School one might hear a variety of tunes, with a medley of words, such as "Two Roses from Mother," "You Don't Belong to the Regulars—You Are Only a Volunteer," "Just as the Sun Went Down," "Break the News to Mother," "The Boys of '98"; a little more specific in which appeared the line "Oh, the moon shines down tonight upon the waters, where the heroes of the Maine in silence lay; and their spirits cry aloud for vengeance, on the shores of Havana, far away." Indeed, "Remember the Maine" was on every tongue.

The formal declaration of war on April 23d was followed by the first call for volunteers. No regular organization existed in Lewis, but a few men belonged to Company "K," of Clarksburg, commanded by Captain Harry Smith. Some of these later became members of a local company, later organized. Company "K" was called out at once, and on Tuesday, April 26, the *Weston Independent* had the following to say, relative to the departure of the local members:

### Patriotic Passengers.



ON TO HAVANA!

Kirk Smith, H. St. Clare and Warner Chapman left Sunday afternoon for Clarksburg, in response to orders from Captain Smith, of Company K, West Virginia National Guards, to report for duty.

They intended going down on horses, but some of our public spirited citizens took the matter in hand and soon had enough money collected to charter a special train, which was done and promptly at four o'clock a train composed of two coaches gayly decorated with flags and bunting left the depot with a large crowd on board, including the Weston Cornet band.

Before the departure of the train, Rev. F. J. Cathor gave the boys some excellent scriptural advice and offered an appropriate and touching plea for the Master to guide and care for our gallant soldier boys.

The band also played some appropriate patriotic airs, and the great throng of people who had gathered at the depot were deeply impressed.

The train arrived at Clarksburg at five o'clock and remained there about an hour. The following Weston boys enlisted with Co. K as privates: George Blake, Rex Barrett and Thomas Woffudin. A. M. Corathers, of Gaston, who is also a member of Co. K, passed through here Monday on his way to Clarksburg to join his company.

The quota under the call for volunteers assigned to Lewis County was 134 men, and with the privilege of sending one fully organized company. It remained for Jackson Arnold, a young attorney of Weston, to take the initiative in organizing a local company. Of his efforts in this connection the *Independent* on May 10 said:

### Wants to Go to The Front.

Young Jackson Arnold has been laboring for some days to organize a company of volunteers in this county to go to the front and help free Cuba. Up to date about 175 young men have applied for admission into its ranks. If finally organized it will constitute a part of Col. Curtin's command of volunteers. Charlie Elliott, who is to be Lieutenant Colonel, was in conference with Mr. Arnold on Wednesday of last week. He thinks 1200 hardy mountaineers can be enlisted from this and adjoining counties, and thinks that a regiment of such men would be invincible.

On May 28, Arnold, through the local press, issued a call for 100 able-bodied men. All applicants were required to pass a physical test by Dr. Wesley P. King; a sufficient number being secured by the middle of June, forming Company "F," of which Arnold was commissioned captain.

Captain Jackson Arnold, son of George Jackson and Ann Swick Arnold, was born in Weston, September 16, 1875. After a period of study at Glenville Normal, he entered Pennsylvania Military College, and graduated in the class of 1896 from West Virginia University. Subsequent to the Spanish-American War, he was long

connected with the First West Virginia Infantry, ranking as major after 1912. During the World War he served as lieutenant colonel of the One Hundred Fiftieth Infantry during its period of service at Camp Shelby, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, and in France; and later served five years as Superintendent of Public Safety of West Virginia—1919-1924.

George Karl Kunst, of Weston, was commissioned first lieutenant. He was a son of Albert H. and Matilda Camden Kunst, born in 1875 and died in 1904, and was educated at Kenyon College. On August 19, 1898, he was transferred at Camp Meade, Pennsylvania, to the position of battalion adjutant.

Kirk C. Smith, of Weston, was commissioned second lieutenant. He had been, as heretofore noted, a member of Company "K." He is a son of Edgar and Mary Cather Smith, and was born January 25, 1873. Was educated at Weston and Broadus College. After the close of the war he spent two years in Alaska and later some time in South America, and is now a resident of Jefferson, Ohio.

The *Independent* in commenting on the departure of Captain Arnold's company on Tuesday, June 28th, said:

Our soldier boys are off for Charleston to join the Regular Army. Dr. W. P. King has been busy for the past few weeks giving Captain Arnold's company a preliminary examination. The necessary 106 men have been secured and left this morning on No. 1 for Clarksburg. Early this morning the town was astir with soldier boys and patriots and people gathering at the depot to say farewell to those who are willing to sacrifice life to defend their country's honor and its flag.

The departure of Company "F" for "the front" can be further visualized from the remarks set down in a daily journal by Corporal O. K. Tillman, further extracts being made during the progress of the narrative:

The morning fixed for our departure, wrote Tillman, was the 28th. It was marked by a downpour of rain about dawn, which fortunately ceased before we assembled. We met in Weston, and formed in a long line of two abreast, in Main Street between First and Second Streets. Streets then unpaved.

And such an array. Few in our company had any military training and we showed it in our appearance. It was anything but that of a military organization, the attire of our members varying from the conventional black to the more familiar cordu-

roy. Every fellow carried something in the form of a satchel or portmanteau, or perhaps a clumsy bundle containing some belongings.

As we stood so arrayed in the street, many stepped up to say good-bye and wish us well. Among the crowd assembled were the mothers and sisters of some of our company who were frantic in appeals for their sons to stay at home. Tears flowed freely. About 7:30 we marched to the depot, the crowd following and growing larger all the time. A special train awaited us which we soon occupied. Then came a waving of hats and cries of "Hurrah for Cuba," "Remember the Maine," etc. The crowd answered back with many cheers and amid such a farewell we started on our journey.

We spent a short time in Clarksburg and then sped on to Parkersburg where we left our train and marched across the city to the Ohio River depot. Under a bright sun we began our journey down the Ohio, and at the sleepy little old town of Point Pleasant we were served bread, coffee and beef. By the time we started up the Great Kanawha it was night, and many of our boys saw this stream by moonlight for the first time. Arriving at West Charleston, at midnight, by regimental adjutant Lieutenant Archer, we were conducted to Camp Atkinson. A few companies were already on the ground, and more than one sleepy soldier stuck his head out of the tent to call "Where in the — did you come from?" We were soon at the quartermaster's tent, where we were given some white bags and instructed to fill them with straw and get to bed. That we readily obeyed orders need not be doubted.

Morning came with a bugle call. Few had heard one, but all knew what it meant, and out we came to wash as best we could in a barrel of river water. At a short distance could be seen an old cook stove presided over by a little old man, who was so slow, after what seemed hours, we were given a tin pan, cup, knife, fork and a spoon. Then in line we were served coffee, huge slices of bread and long slices of meat, which we found was the famous "sow bosom" of the Army. Such was our introduction to the rations and service of the Army.

On June 30, Captain Arnold's company was officially mustered in the service of the United States by Captain J. M. Burns, of the Seventeenth United States Infantry; Governor G. W. Atkinson and other State officials were present. The men at once entered upon days of drill and the usual duties of camp. The news of the action at Santiago reached camp on July 14th, and the entire day was devoted to a great celebration, it being the impression that

this would end the war. This pleased some, but displeased a great majority who were anxious to get "on to Cuba."

"Saturday, August 6th," wrote Corporal Tillman, in his journal, "was the most noted day so far in camp. In the morning we had a regimental inspection by Captain Burns, of the United States Army, and we passed a very creditable inspection. Had our supper about 5:00 o'clock, after which the regiment was marched out of camp and colors presented by the ladies of Charleston. Governor Atkinson was present and made an interesting, appropriate and humorous address. At the close of his address he handed the colors to Colonel Casteel. We gave three cheers for the flag, the Governor, and the Second Regiment. They were regular ear painers. The colors were given to Company "F." It is one of the proudest days of our lives, and the Second West Virginia will not soon forget this memorable day."

On August 16th, the regiment in heavy marching order moved into the city of Charleston, parading the principal streets and was reviewed by the Governor. Orders had been received to make ready to move. Friday, the 19th, found the regiment on the way to Camp Meade at Middletown, nine miles below Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Here in the next few days were brought together the Second Army Corps numbering over 35,000 men.

On August 27th, records Tillman, President McKinley accompanied by members of his Cabinet and prominent Army officers, visited our camp. We were drawn up in a long line in the officers' street of our camp and presented arms as he drove by, which salute he acknowledged by removing his hat. As he passed us he was heard to remark, "That is a fine body of men."

President McKinley at the review when informed that the men were from central West Virginia recalled to mind the beginning of the Civil War when he saw service through their home region. His visit at once started a vast number of rumors. In fact, it was a war of rumors. It soon began noised abroad that the Second Regiment was ordered to Porto Rico to the great delight of the men. The First West Virginia, however, raised the question of seniority and made so much objection that in the end neither got to go.

The subject became more intense when on September 9th, the regiment, a part of some 16,000 men, was reviewed by Major

General W. R. Shafter and Secretary R. A. Alger. Shafter, in a short address, complimented the men very highly. Rumors again flew thick and fast that the regiment was to move.

The regiment in full marching order left Camp Meade on September 20th, and on the evening of the 22nd, arrived at Boiling Springs on the way to Gettysburg. As each company passed through the little town the local G. A. R. post fired a salute. Later in the day some of the veterans of '61 saw in real life an exhibition of that mythical and evasive command in the Army called Company "Q." In this case it was composed of men out of various regiments who on the march had noted the time-advertised qualities of Pennsylvania Dutch fancy chicken. With the side glances along the highways came the age-old desire to possess a sample, and perhaps replace a ration of choice pork. This thought being put into execution, led to a splendid meal, but to an infraction of Army rules for which the offender was afterwards transferred to Company "Q" to parade before his jealous tentmate who got none of the rare bird. One officer afterwards declared that he would have traded places even if the change in diet did cost a day's pay.

On Tuesday, the 27th, the regiment went into camp on the historic Gettysburg battlefield. Tents were pitched on the Confederate side of the battlefield, on a site over which had raged a desperate conflict thirty-five years before, and in which many a citizen of Lewis County had taken part. It was the first visit of the men and of great interest. One soldier writing home recalled the thoughts that came to the mind as it reflected back over the happenings on the field, so well recalled in the following lines quoted:

Methinks I hear a bugle blow, methinks I hear a drum;  
And there with martial step and slow, two ghostly armies come,  
They are the men who met as foes, for 'tis the dead I see,  
Where side by side in peace repose the swords of Meade and Lee.

On Wednesday, the 28th, the regiment participated in the exercise in connection with the unveiling of a monument to the Seventh West Virginia Infantry, Federal Army. The principal address was made by Governor G. W. Atkinson, who was followed by Thomas C. Miller, State Superintendent of Schools. Governor Hastings of Pennsylvania and General Lyons responded.

It will be recalled that the Seventh West Virginia Infantry was the crack infantry organization during the Civil War. It participated in a greater number of major engagements and lost the greatest per cent in killed and wounded of any regiment from West Virginia. Colonel Joseph Snider was the commander, but in the battle of Gettysburg command fell upon Lieutenant Colonel J. H. Lockwood. Curious as it may seem, on this site, it charged and drove back the Seventh Virginia (Confederate) Infantry, capturing its colonel and Lieutenant Lockwood, a nephew of the Federal commander.

The Gettysburg camp was not conducive to the general health of the Army. Paul Winchester, of Buckhannon, Roy R. Hale, of Weston, and several others were stricken with typhoid fever.

The regiment moved forward to York, Pennsylvania, on October 5th, where it went into camp inside of York County Fair Grounds. On the evening of Thursday, the 6th, a dress parade was held inside the race track. Here Tillman recorded in his journal:

Our dress parade was witnessed by over 50,000 people. This evening our company streets were so full of eager sightseers that the men had not enough room to fall in line well. When we went out to the parade grounds, which was the large ground encircled by the race track, it was like walking through a long deep cut so thick were the people. The great grandstand was full to overflowing of anxious spectators. The throng of people completely encircled the race track. They were hanging over the railing, each anxious to catch a glimpse of the soldiers as they went through the accustomed maneuvers of dress parade. Many compliments were passed upon the Second West Virginia as it passed through the multitude. On all sides you could hear people say, "Look what large, portly men," "Well, what independent looking men they are," "Don't they make a fine appearance?"

It seemed to particularly interest the rising generation, for the children would say, "Oh, mamma, isn't that pretty?" Such were some of the compliments passed upon the Second West Virginia.

The people cheered us by clapping their hands, waving handkerchiefs and hats, while those in the grandstand stamped their feet upon the floor. The people of York showed us great hospitality all the time we were with them. The girls would hold soldiers, clip the buttons off their blouses, and make cuff links and hat pin ornaments out of them any time large crowds were assembled and they could get away with it.

After a three days' stay at York the regiment took up its march to Camp Meade, arriving on October 10th. Here it rested until the 26th, when the Second Battalion, of which Company "F" was the crack color company, was ordered to Philadelphia. In company with other organizations the men participated in the Peace Jubilee Celebration. Again the men passed in review before President McKinley. As Company "F" was right under the reviewing stand carrying an unusually straight company front he was heard to remark, "That is a splendid line." The line of march took the company by the German Hospital, where Sergeant Hale and some others recovering from fever were wheeled to the windows to see their company go by.

From Philadelphia the battalion returned to Camp Meade. Here as the result of previous arrangement a public presentation of a sword to Lieutenant Smith took place. It carried an inscription, "Presented to Lieutenant Kirk C. Smith by the members of Company 'F,' Second West Virginia Infantry, U. S. A."

On Sunday morning, November 13th, at 6:00 A. M., the regiment struck tents, entraining at 10 o'clock for Greenville, South Carolina, which place was reached on the following Tuesday morning. On the 15th Tillman records in his journal:

About 9 o'clock we started to march to Camp Wetherill on the southeast side of the city. Some northern regiment had proceeded us. As they marched through the city a band belonging to one of them was indiscreet enough to play "Marching Through Georgia," and of course received no friendly reception. When we were about in the center of the city our band struck up "Dixie." The people poured out into the streets, the sidewalks were soon lined, and amid cheers and waving hats came shouts of "you're all right." From that moment our regiment was the most popular one on the ground.

The months to come became very monotonous to the men in all regiments. Aside from the request of the Mayor of Greenville and some local residents that the Second Regiment be used as provost guard in the city, most of the time was spent in weeks filled with target practice, reviews, parades and sham battles. Indeed Camp Wetherill was nothing more or less than a minor military school. And no one will forget the fatigue details. If a man violated any of the unnumbered rules he was slated for such work.

"Alger's Corned Beef" became even more in evidence and the novelty had long before worn off hard-tack. All had heard of it before enlisting, but few ever broke bread with the real thing. And such troubles never came singly, because it was always accompanied by old-fashioned Army bacon, alias "sow belly." "Such a hog as Uncle Sam did raise," writes an old Army man, "for in spite of our persistent eating and gnawing at the middlings, we never got back to the ham. Indeed Uncle Sam's Army never did reach the ham until the late World War." The officers were at first blamed for all such discomforts, but it was soon common knowledge that the leaders had nothing whatever to do with it. The contract system was the real cause, and indeed criticism ran so high that Secretary Alger was forced from the War Department.

On the other hand, however, it must not be construed that all criticism was just. To a student of the various wars in which our country has been engaged; and the elements that enter into a successful campaign, it is quite apparent that the results were accomplished in a remarkable short time considering the lack of previous preparation. To bring into action any kind of an army, with nothing but a mere skeleton as a basis; to in less than four months bring to terms a nation rated as the sixth world power, is an achievement in itself of no small note. The Navy under John D. Long made a record of which we may justly be proud. And even General Corbin, when stung by the universal criticism, only replied, "We went to war for a purpose. We accomplished that purpose in less than one hundred days."

But the one hundred days did not end the troubles of the men in arms. Politicians declared that men from certain States had to see some service. One such result was that an Ohio regiment was hastened to Porto Rico, swinging clear around from the South, through Charleston, West Virginia.

"More than one hundred thousand unnecessary troops were assembled in the camps during the Spanish War," writes Arthur W. Dunn. "They were not needed at the time they were brought from the States. With little or no occupation and without hope of service, they deteriorated as men will under such conditions, and disease made great inroads upon them." And now that the war was long over, thousands of men who had left families and positions

clamored to be released. Some one with a streak of humor rather sized up the sentiment in a parody of a song of the Fourth Ohio Infantry, part of which ran as follows:

Lying in the guardhouse, awaiting my discharge,  
To h——l with all the officers, the provost and the guard—  
When we get back to Weston, as happy as a clam,  
To tell about the sow belly we ate for Uncle Sam.

The following April brought orders for the mustering out of the regiment, which took place on the 10th. The men from Lewis were soon entrained and on the way home. The *Weston Independent*, on April 12th, under the caption of "Company 'F' at Home," said:

Our Soldier Boys Arrived Today  
And Are Given a Rousing  
Welcome—Banquet Tonight.

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The Second West Virginia Regiment was mustered out at Camp Wetherill, Greenville, South Carolina, Monday, and it was the last volunteer regiment leaving that camp.

Company "F," in which Lewis County boys enlisted, arrived here today, also a portion of Company "L," the Glenville company. The boys are glad to get home, and we are glad to have them with us again.

Captain Jack Arnold and his company left here on Monday, June 27, 1898, for Camp Atkinson, near Charleston, where they were mustered into the service of Uncle Sam. Company "F" was composed of as fine a body of young men as could be found anywhere, and although the boys were not permitted to kill any Spaniards, they made an enviable record in the several camps where they were quartered.

The company left here with a full complement of officers and men, and during their term of service there were but two deaths, both privates, of fever—G. J. Cooper and B. T. Pritchard. When the boys left Camp Wetherill, two members of the company were left behind in the division hospital sick. Private Tom Hayden is ill of pneumonia, and was sent to the hospital a couple of days prior to being mustered out; John Skinner, also a private, is in the hospital sick with fever.

The boys were met at the station here by the city band and immense crowd of citizens, and all joined in extending a hearty and enthusiastic welcome to our soldier boys.

The town is full of soldier boys today, and in fact, the town is given over to them. A banquet will be given in their honor at

the Camden Hotel at 8:30 o'clock this evening, and a royal good time is anticipated by all. Toasts will be responded to by Mayor Warder, Louis Bennett, W. W. Brannon, Geo. C. Cole, Andrew Edmiston and W. B. McGary.

*The Independent* on the 19th, comments as follows relative to the last assembly :

### THE BANQUET TO COMPANY "F"

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Was An Enjoyable Affair and the Boys  
Are Made to Feel the Sincerity  
Of Their Welcome Home.

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The young ladies of Weston covered themselves with patriotic glory in the banquet tendered the members of Company "F" at Camden Hotel last Wednesday evening. The banquet was one of those pleasant events that marks an enjoyable epoch and leaves behind a bright spot in the pathway of life. The happy occurrence was made possible through the patriotic energy and loving interest of our young ladies who took the matter in hand and brought it to a most successful conclusion.

The banquet hall was tastefully decorated with flags and bunting and large portraits of that trio of war heroes—Dewey, Sampson and Schley—were illuminated with electric lights. The young ladies who were so active in providing the banquet were present and charmingly assisted one and all to the good things with which the tables were laden. From 9 to 11 P. M. patriotism, good cheer, fellowship and comradeship were paramount and free as air.

Dr. A. H. Kunst was chosen as toastmaster for the occasion, and he presided in a very happy manner. Although taken up without notice, he entered fully into the spirit of the occasion, and created much merriment by his frequent puns and pleasantries.

Our soldier boys are the pride of our people, and on behalf of our citizens, Mayor Warder, in words of great feeling, welcomed the boys of Company "F" home. His remarks were very appropriate and well chosen, and were received with uproarious applause. Captain Jack Arnold was called upon and responded on behalf of Company "F" in a manner becoming a soldier. He spoke of the joy the boys felt at once more being at the family fireside, and that their only disappointment was in not being allowed to go to Cuba, Porto Rico, or the Philippines, and while they were denied the privilege of a hand-to-hand conflict with Spaniards, he spoke with commendable pride of the deportment of the boys and what they had accomplished while in camp. He spoke feelingly and at the conclusion was greeted with thunderous applause.

W. B. McGary responded to the toast of "The American Flag;" J. M. Foster, "The Patriot;" Senator Cole, "The Soldier's Sweetheart," and R. L. Bland, "The Soldier." All were received with hearty applause and added much to the enjoyment of the occasion.

A rising vote of thanks was given to young ladies who provided the banquet, the hotel management and the Weston band.

Nothing was left unsaid or undone to make the boys feel they were sincerely welcomed home, and the festivities closed with three rousing cheers for the officers and privates of Company "F."

# Soldiers from Lewis

Roster Company "F," Second Regiment, West Virginia  
Volunteer Infantry

## CAPTAIN

Arnold, Jackson..... Weston

## FIRST LIEUTENANT

Kunst, G. Karl..... Weston

## SECOND LIEUTENANT

Smith, Kirk C..... Weston

## FIRST SERGEANT

Hughes, Allen C..... Weston

## QUARTERMASTER SERGEANT

Davisson, John G..... Weston

## DUTY SERGEANTS

Hale, Roy R..... Weston

Hudson, Thos. J..... Weston

Colebank, Robert L..... Sutton

Burger, Emmett M..... Weston

## CORPORALS

Ball, James W..... Pickens

Tillman, Orien K..... Horner

Helmick, Jacob E..... Arnold

Corbett, William C..... Sutton

Newlon, Granville Derring..... Buckhannon

Peterson, Charles J..... Weston

Liggett, Joseph F..... Buckhannon

Miller, Wade H..... Horner

Mayo, William V..... Pickens

Wilson, William H..... Dayton, Ohio

Barrett, Rex C..... Weston

Gladwell, James W..... Stockerts

Ward, Wilson E..... Weston

## LANCE CORPORAL

Wilt, William W..... Vandalia

## COOK

Allen, Constant V..... Lytchfield, Minn.

## MUSICIANS

Ewing, Alexander..... Pickens

Steinbeck, Fred W..... Alum Bridge

## ARTIFICER

Tierney, Edward G..... Evergreen

## WAGONER

Smith, Cabell M..... Jacksonville



Lieut. Kirk C. Smith

## PRIVATES

Brinkley, James E.....	Barrs Station, Pa.
Bacorn, Mack C.....	Knawl
Barb, Wm. B.....	Lighburn
Bonnell, Martin A.....	Weston
Brown, W. E.....	Weston
Burns, Samuel E.....	Duffy
Burr, William H.....	Gaston
Burr, Charles W.....	Horner
Coburn, John.....	Weston
Collins, John T.....	Cableton
Cain, Perry M.....	Confluence
Chipp, Charles W.....	Knawl
Davis, David, Jr.....	Piedmont
Dever, Kenny.....	Staunton, Va.
Flesher, Isaac I.....	Weston
Forinash, Marion B.....	Vandalia
Greathouse, Oscar H.....	Brownsville
Grubb, John M.....	Weston
Gum, Eddie R.....	Churchville
Garrett, Joseph E.....	Weston
Gauden, George W.....	Brownsville
Gibson, Charles W.....	Alton
Gillum, Glen.....	Alton
Grimett, James S.....	Sutton
Haines, Charles E.....	Buckhannon
Haskins, Kirk P.....	Buckhannon
Hayden, Thomas.....	Edmiston
Hindenach, Frank, Jr.....	Weston
Hutchenson, Edwin C.....	Sharon
Johnson, Perry E.....	Alexander
Jeffries, John W.....	Confluence
Klencke, Thomas F.....	Piedmont
Kemper, Ora D.....	Churchville
King, Charles E.....	Weston
Landis, Walter T.....	French Creek
Landis, Reuben A.....	French Creek
Lawson, Leroy M.....	Gaston
Lawson, Edwin M.....	Berlin
Law, Arthur D.....	Walkersville
Loudin, Sidney D.....	Alton
Landin, Wm. L.....	Alton
Lemmons, Seymour P.....	French Creek
Lyons, Wm. S.....	Sardis
Myers, Columbus J.....	Weston
Morrisett, Hugh.....	Buckhannon
Markley, Rutherford H.....	Weston

Marsh, Ralph.....	Vandalia
McCray, Wm. L.....	Cleveland
Moore, Charles.....	Weston
Morris, Thomas E.....	Alkires Mills
Morton, Jarrett P.....	Crawford
Osborn, Emery P.....	Vadis
Plant, Marshall N.....	Brownsville
Parker, Hunter W.....	Buckhannon
Pierson, Charles B.....	Sutton
Porter, Wheeler H.....	Piedmont
Raebly, Everhart.....	Piedmont
Ray, James L.....	New Ville
Sherrard, Hale.....	Weston
Sheets, Cornelieus S.....	Westerport, Md.
Shields, John M.....	Napier
Skinner, John M.....	Weston
Smith, Stanton A.....	Weston
Smith, Thadeous P.....	Roanoke
Smith, Samuel A.....	Jacksonville
Smith, Charles.....	French Creek
Squires, Samuel M.....	Austin
Taylor, Thomas E.....	Roanoke
Taylor, George R.....	Alkires Mills
Taylor, Arthur C.....	Roanoke
Tierney, Thomas B.....	Evergreen
Williams, Stanley.....	Lanes Bottom
Walker, Samuel L.....	Yankee Dam
Washburn, Thomas O.....	Weston
Wells, Bert E.....	Vandalia
Williams, Gus.....	Donald
Winemiller, Loyd L.....	Seymour
Woffindin, Thomas J.....	Weston
Wolf, Samuel J.....	Alton
Woofter, Karl.....	Gaston
Woods, Frank.....	Churchville
Young, Jesse M.....	Strands
Zinn, John B.....	Vandalia
Zinn, Thomas C.....	Vandalia

### TRANSFERS

Brinkley, James E., to Company "M."  
 Greathouse, Oscar, to Company "M."  
 Plant, Marshall, to Company "M."  
 Grubb, John M., to Company "M."  
 Myers, Columbus, to Company "M."  
 Sherrard, Hale, to Hospital Corps.  
 Ewing, Alexander, to Regimental Bugler.  
 Klencke, Thomas F., to Regimental Band.

## MISCELLANEOUS

Hardman, W. E., Sergeant, Co. "I," 2nd W. Va. Vol. Infantry.  
Chapman, Warner W., Private, Co. "D," 1st W. Va. Vol. Infantry.  
Robinson, Theo. H., Private, Co. "E," 1st W. Va. Vol. Infantry.  
Corathers, Albert M., Corporal, Co. "D," 1st W. Va. Vol. Infantry.  
Griggs, Luther, Private, Co. "C," 1st W. Va. Vol. Infantry.

Pierce D. Marsh, of Lewis County, served as a Corporal in Company "F," First Regiment, Nebraska Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Charles A. Vickers, enlisting May 9, 1898. This regiment was at once dispatched to the Philippines, by way of San Francisco and Honolulu, being the first American soldiers to arrive following the naval engagement in which Dewey destroyed the Spanish fleet in Manila Bay. The regiment made a forced landing, being compelled to wade ashore, about four miles from Manila, at Pasay where Camp Dewey was established. On August 13 the city was stormed, the engagement starting about 9:00 o'clock A. M., and lasting until 1:45, at which time the Spaniards surrendered, about 13,000 prisoners being taken. During the engagement, Company "F" was assigned to the support of the Third Field Artillery. Under the direction of Captain Glass, of the *U. S. S. Charleston*, the company assumed charge of the Custom House on the Pasig River, and later participated in several minor skirmishes while on scout duty with the Field Engineers. Marsh was honorably discharged December 12, 1898.

In February, 1899, Auginaldo proclaimed war against the United States. Then followed the rebellion of the Philippines, called the Philippine Insurrection. Some two or three citizens of Lewis County, who had already seen service in the first affair, re-enlisted and achieved distinction abroad. Especially may be recorded the names of Will P. Hall, of Jane Lew, and George Markley, of near Weston.

Will P. Hall enlisted as a private in Company "I," Seventeenth United States Infantry, on June 27, 1898. During the War with Spain he served in the Fifth Army Corps, and from this until June 26, 1901, in the Eighth Army Corps in the Philippines, with the rank of Sergeant, and participated in fifteen battles and skirmishes.

On August 13, 1899, a detachment of the Seventeenth Infantry,

numbering 252 men under Major George Roach, was ordered to advance into the vicinity of Angeles, Luzon, P. I., where it was reported that about 1,500 native troops had taken refuge. Within about a mile of Angeles the enemy's fire became so strong the troops were halted. It developed that the main fire came from a band of sharpshooters occupying a stone culvert. Sergeant Hall with six other men were ordered to advance and attempt to gain a position from which the enemy could be dislodged, driving them out, if possible, and if not, to fall back on the main command. The little band of men, when within about seventy-five yards, found that to do either way was almost certain death, when Hall, in a sense disregarding orders, leading his detachment, charged the culvert, driving the Filipinos into a cane field, holding the position until the main body came up. The new position provided an opportunity for the capture of the objective. The seven were called before the regiment, publicly commended, and later recommended to receive Certificates of Merit. Hall is a son of the late Dr. Silas and Celia Jackson Hall, of Jane Lew. A son served in the World War, and Dr. Silas Hall, his father, was a surgeon in the Federal Army during the Civil War.

In the latter part of September, 1901, a detachment of seventy-two men from Company "C," Ninth United States Infantry, went into camp at Balangiga, Island of Samar, P. I. On the 28th occurred a massacre which in the annals of the American Army can only be compared to the last stand of General Custer. Totally without warning and while at breakfast the men were rushed by hundreds of Visayans armed with "bolos" or "talisbones," the native sword. Thirty-two officers and enlisted men were killed and many wounded.

Sergeant Taylor B. Hickman, of Knoxville, Tennessee; Sergeant George F. Markley, a resident of Lewis County, and a few others with clubs fought their way to the stacked arms, took refuge in a shack, and opened fire. The natives having but few rifles, soon found they were getting the worst of it, and with no escape except by a nearby river. Scores of them started to swim across, Markley and others taking advantage of the opportunity to make quick work of them. The engagement lasted about two hours, but in that time over 250 natives were killed. The next day the survivors reached Basay in native canoes.

Sergeant Markley was born in Randolph County, enlisted at Grafton June 3, 1899, served in the Ninth and Thirteenth Infantry until honorably discharged in 1902. He is now a resident of Oregon. One in a position to speak with some authority writes, "Markley's actions could not be excelled for cool courage and fighting spirit." Another veteran records that "it was regarded at the time by all Army men as the bravest act of the war." This insurrection closed July 14, 1902, with the amnesty proclamation of President Theodore Roosevelt.

## The United Spanish War Veterans

The United Spanish War Veterans was organized at St. Louis, Missouri, April 18, 1904, and marked the consolidation of several similar organizations already in the field. Its objects are: "To keep alive the memories of the War with Spain; to promote the best interests of those who, in the service of the United States, took part in that war, and their dependents; to encourage and spread liberty and equal rights and justice to all men, as well as to inculcate the principles of freedom, patriotism and humanity."

On November 17, 1904, a meeting of veterans of this war was held in Weston, and the Karl Kunst Camp organized, being named for Karl Kunst, late lieutenant of Company "F," Second West Virginia Volunteer Infantry. Jackson Arnold was elected Commander; Russell Bell, Senior Vice Commander; Roy R. Hale, Junior Vice Commander; Fred W. Steinbeck, Chaplain; James V. Hood, Adjutant; Hale Sherrard, Quartermaster; W. E. Hardman, Officer of the Day; T. M. Smith, Officer of the Guard, and W. V. Mayo, P. D. Marsh and T. H. Robinson, Trustees.

The Department of West Virginia was organized at Clarksburg on July 10, 1924, with Jackson Arnold, of Weston, as the first Commander. Roy R. Hale, of Weston, served as the first Officer of the Guard; and W. W. Chapman, of Weston, as a member of the first Board of Trustees. Shortly thereafter Weston Camp No. 8 was organized with the following officers and members:

Roy R. Hale, Commander; Pierce D. Marsh, Senior Vice Commander; A. C. Hughes, Junior Vice Commander; W. W. Chapman, Adjutant; Carl C. Dunham, Officer of the Day; Bert E. Wells, Officer of the Guard; Jackson Arnold, Fred W. Steinbeck, Hale Sherrard, J. W. Ferry, John W. Jeffries, M. S. Bonnell, Theodore H. Robinson, Leroy M. Lawson, Albert M. Corathers, Luther Griggs, C. F. Davis, Arthur M. Law, O. K. Tillman, W. H. Greene, John W. Mitchell, Eddie R. Gum, W. A. Williams, Charles W. Burr, A. C. Taylor.